Alberta Treasury
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 2001 TO FEBRUARY 16, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Consumer Price Index	January			
Alberta	116.0	-3.0%	1.1%	The all-items CPI declined 3.0% in Alberta (largest CPI decrease among provinces) between December and January, as government rebates for electricity and natural gas sharply reduced prices. As a result, Alberta by far had the lowest year over year increase. The CPI for Canada decreased 0.3% from December, but was up 3.0% from January 2000. Canada's core inflation index (excluding food and energy) decreased 0.2% from December, but was up 2.0% from last year.
Canada	114.7	-0.3%	3.0%	
New Motor Vehicle Sales	December			
Alberta	14,866	4.9%	-2.9%	In 2000 new vehicle sales recorded their strongest performance ever, surpassing previous 1988 peak by 1.5%. For 2000 overall, Alberta (8.6%) recorded highest increase among provinces, followed by British Columbia (6.9%), and Saskatchewan (6.0%). In December Alberta recorded a 4.9% monthly increase. Except for British Columbia (2.1%), all provinces noted a decline on year over year basis, including Alberta (-2.9%).
Canada	131,151	2.5%	-12.4%	
New Housing Price Index	December			
Canada	104.4	0.1%	2.4%	New housing prices in Canada rose a strong 2.4% on a year-over-year basis, and 0.1% from the previous month. Ottawa-Hull (12.9%) recorded highest increase from December 1999, followed by Kitchener-Waterloo (4.4%), Montreal (4.3%), and St. John's Newfoundland (3.5%). By comparison, Calgary and Edmonton recorded more modest increases at 1.5% and 1.0% respectively. Declines were experienced in Sudbury-Thunder Bay (-1.7%), Victoria (-1.4%), Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton (-1.3%), and Vancouver (-1.1%).
Edmonton	112.2	0.0%	1.0%	
Calgary	133.1	0.0%	1.5%	
(1992=100)				